Session I: Insect Management

Overview: Changes in Landscape

Bill Robertson

Technical Services
National Cotton Council
Memphis, TN
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Records</th>
<th>1926</th>
<th>45,968,000 acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plantings</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>23,890,200 bales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>879 pounds lint/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>3.353</td>
<td>1.867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midsouth</td>
<td>4.235</td>
<td>1.960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>6.835</td>
<td>4.935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>.525</td>
<td>.282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Upland</td>
<td>14.948</td>
<td>9.044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Cotton</td>
<td>15.274</td>
<td>9.246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other Changes

• Crop Consultants
• Extension
• Dealers and Distributors
• Seed and Chemical Companies
• Equipment Manufactures
Increasing Average Age of Producers

• Less than 5% of producers in farming and livestock production are under the age of 34, compared to 23% in other U.S. self-employed positions.

• In addition, 27% of producers are over the age of 65, compared to just 8% for other U.S. self-employed
Increased Market Volatility

• Increased market volatility

• Price changes due to demand instead of supply harder to track and predict
Decreased Profitability

- Rising input costs
- Less profitable even with increased efficiencies and new technology
Economy Issues

- Lowered interest in investments
- Credit Crunch
- Loss of Infrastructure (fertilizer plants, cotton mills, equipment manufacturing)
Issues to Address

• Environmental issues
• World fiber demand
• Increasing yields
• Decreasing inputs
• Loss of infrastructure
Your Challenge

- Aware of current issues
- Understand recommendations
- Use BMPs
  - Maintain yield potential
  - Conserve resources
  - Manage production costs
  - Preserve profitability